

106 The Enchanted Castle.

went on board his ship and left her. When Ariadne awaked, and found the vessel gone, she cried sadly, and was sorry she had forsaken her father's palace, but it was too late. While she was deploring her misfortune, Bacchus, the God of wine, passed by, and Ariadne being very beautiful, he took pity on her and married her. A crown which she had upon her head, Bacchus threw up to Heaven, and it was changed into a constellation, which is still called after her name. Theseus, at his departure from home, promised his old father Egeus, that if he conquered the Minotaur, he would upon his return, put out a white flag on his ship as a signal of his success; but he forgot his promise, and his father, who, during his absence went daily to the sea-side to wait his arrival, one day saw the vessel enter the port, without a white flag, and thinking his son was dead, he threw himself into the sea and was drowned. Theseus sent presents to the god Apollo,

The Enchanted Castle. 107

Apollo, to express his thanks for his success, and gave orders that the same vessel should go annually with presents in the same manner, which was ever after observed, and no one could be put to death till this ship returned to Athens.

*Miss Julia.* Theseus was a very wicked man, Mademoiselle, to leave this poor princess so, who had saved his life.

*Mademoiselle.* Very true, my dear; but if he had not left her in that manner, he must have married her; and no one chooses to marry a young woman that runs after the men. While he had occasion for her assistance, he made the finest promises in the world; but the men don't think themselves obliged to perform the promises which they make to a woman: they are delighted at being able to deceive them, and make a jest of them afterwards. I told Lady Such-a-One, say they, that she was handsome, and that I was dying for love of her, and she was foolish enough to believe me.

Lady